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HDP/SB/21 based on PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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| TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | Application Number | 10/748,464 | |
| | Filing Date | December 30, 2003 | |
| | First Named Inventor | Donald G. Wheatley | |
| | Group Art Unit | 3612 | |
| | Examiner Name | Joseph Pape | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 9 | Attorney Docket Number | 3110-000038/DVC |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): postcard |
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| Firm or Individual name | Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C. | Attorney Name Stanley M. Erjavac Jeffrey L. Snyder | Reg. No. 38,442 43,141 |
| Signature | | | |
| Date | January 23, 2004 | | |

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/748,464
Filing Date: December 30, 2003
Applicant: Donald G. Wheatley
Group Art Unit: 3612
Examiner: Joseph Pape
Title: TONNEAU COVER FRAME (As Amended)
Attorney Docket: 3110-000038/DVC

Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application, please consider the following.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.